

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The current status of all claims in the Application is as follows:

Claim 1 (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An inductively-coupled, electrodeless fluorescent lamp comprising; a lamp body having two opposed sides; an induction coil on one side of said body; and a magnetically transparent electrostatic shield intimately interposed between said induction coil and said one side of said body, said shield comprising an insulating substrate; an electrically conductive layer on said substrate including means for reducing capacitive coupling between a voltage on said induction coil and a plasma discharge within said lamp body, said electrically conductive layer having a thickness between 400 Å and 1000 Å, inclusive.

Claim 2 (ORIGINAL) The lamp of Claim 1 wherein said means for reducing capacitive coupling comprises a plurality of slots in said electrically conductive layer.

Claims 3 and 4 (CANCELED)

Claim 5 (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of increasing the efficiency of an inductively-coupled, electrodeless fluorescent lamp comprising the steps of; providing a lamp body having two opposed sides; positioning an induction coil on one side of said body; and intimately positioning a magnetically transparent electrostatic shield between said induction coil and said one side of said body, said shield comprising an insulating substrate; an electrically conductive layer on said substrate including means for reducing radio frequency capacitive coupling between a voltage on said induction coil and a plasma discharge within said lamp body, said electrically conductive layer having a thickness between 400 Å and 1000 Å, inclusive; and inducing an operating voltage on said lamp through said induction coil.